REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT

IN THE

MADRAS PRESIDENCY

FOR THE

THREE YEARS ENDING 1913.

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[Prescribed maximum length—10 pages]

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FOR THE THREE YEARS ENDING 1913.

NOTE.—*Comparisons of figures in this report are, unless otherwise indicated, between those for the triennium ending 1913 and that immediately preceding.*

The notes on the operations of the department for 1911 and 1912 were recorded in G.Os. No. 927, Judicial, dated the 8th June 1912 and Nos. 946 and 2411, Judicial, dated the 14th May and 26th November 1913.

Charge of the department.

2. I held the appointment of Inspector-General throughout the period under report, M.R.Ry. V. Subba Rao Avargal, Registrar of Madras-Chingleput, attending to the current duties during my absence at Delhi in December 1911 when I was honoured with an invitation to attend the Coronation Durbar.

District Registrars.

3. The scheme mentioned in paragraph 3 (1) of the last triennial report of appointing Joint Sub-Registrars at the head-quarters of registration districts to relieve Registrars of the major portion of their original registration and to serve as their Personal Assistants and thus set them free in a greater degree to attend to questions of administration was carried to completion by the end of 1912.

4. Meanwhile, the subject of the equalization, as far as practicable, of the charges of District Registrars had been under consideration. The limits of the 22 registration districts corresponded with those of revenue districts except in the case of Bellary, which included Anantapur, Madras-Chingleput, which comprised Madras city and Chingleput district, Madura, which pending the decision as to the location of the head-quarters of the Ramnad district included that revenue district also, and North Malabar and South Malabar which divided between them the revenue district of that name and Anjengo. The districts as thus constituted presented considerable variations in extent, in the number of sub-offices, in the total registrations, and in the volume of the duties connected with supervision and general control thus falling to the head. In order to equalize the charges with due regard to all these factors, the revenue district of Vizagapatam was with effect from the 1st January 1913 included in the registration district of Godavari, Nellore in that of Guntur, Kurnool in that of Cuddapah and the Nilgiris in that of Coimbatore, and sub-registry offices were established at Vizagapatam, Nellore, Kurnool and Ootacamund for the performance of the original registration previously discharged by the abolished District Registrars. With this redistribution and consequent reduction of the number of District Registrarships by 4, the pay of the last grade of District Registrar was raised from Rs. 175 to 200. In the districts thus amalgamated special provision was made, by notification under section 7 (2) of the Act, for the exercise by the Joint Sub-Registrars at head-quarters of functions of the Registrars so as to afford the latter greater freedom of movement within their enlarged jurisdictions, and the Registrars have been instructed to make frequent halts at the abolished registration head-quarters in order to reduce to a minimum any inconveniences that might accrue in connection with appeals and other matters with which they should deal directly.

5. The registration charges in other districts followed the alterations of the limits of the revenue districts of Salem, South Arcot, Cuddapah and North Arcot under the Meyer scheme, and Chittoor on its constitution as a separate revenue district was included in the registration district of North Arcot.

6. The Registrar of Madras-Chingleput, who was Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, was in May 1912 appointed also as Registrar of Life Assurance Companies and of Provident Insurance Societies, but the additional duties were found to overweight him in the performance of his functions as Registrar of an important district. He was accordingly divested of all concern with companies and societies, and a temporary appointment was created in December 1913 in the class of District Registrar for the combined post of Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, Life Assurance Companies and Provident Insurance Societies.

7. At the end of the triennium there were in addition to the temporary appointment mentioned in the last paragraph and inclusive of my Personal Assistant and the Inspector of Registration offices twenty District Registrars against twenty-four.

The creation of the appointment of Registrar of the Ramnad district cannot be deferred much longer looking to the extent of the present district of Madura and to the fact that eight new sub-districts have recently been added thereto. The question of the relief of the Registrar of South Malabar is another matter which will arise for consideration at no distant date. In his present charge of thirty-nine sub-districts there are twelve the annual registrations of which exceed 4,000, four of these being in excess of 5,000, and proposals for further division of sub-districts are now under consideration.

Sub-Registrars.

8. As already stated, sub-registry offices were opened at Vizagapatam, Nellore, Kurnool and Ootacamund.

Twenty-four new sub-districts were constituted with head-quarters at Cherukupalle, Chilakalurpet, Duggirala, Krosur, Ammanabrolu and Santanutalapad (Guntur); Chokli, Kalliyasseri, Katachira, Katirur, Matamangalam and Uliyil (North Malabar); Mallasamudram and Mechcheri (Salem); Boyirani (Ganjam); Sullia (South Canara); Ettiyapuram (Tinnevelly); Koduvalli, Kottapadi and Parappanangadi (South Malabar); and Valikandapuram, Udayarpalaiyam, Kattuputhur and Velur (Trichinopoly). Additional offices joint with the District Registrar were also opened in Calicut and Trichinopoly.

The offices at Kottapatam (Guntur) and Tiruppalathurai (Trichinopoly) were abolished, that at Lakshminarayanasamudram (Trichinopoly) was transferred to Pugalur and that at Kadambur (Tinnevelly) to Gangaikondan, and one of the two offices at Tiruchendur (Tinnevelly) to Attur Kasba.

The two sub-offices located at Tenkasi, designated Tenkasi and Puliyur, were converted into joint offices, but owing to difficulties as regards accommodation they are for the present worked separately. The two sub-offices at Pattukkottai, *viz.*, Pattukkottai and Nadiyammalpuram, and the two joint offices at each of the stations of Conjeeveram and Uttamapalaiyam were amalgamated. A similar arrangement has been sanctioned for Panruti but is held in abeyance pending the extension of the building at that station.

The special office at Nadigudem [paragraph 3 (*e*) of the last report] continued until the 14th July 1911, *i.e.*, for a total period of 11 months.

The only alteration in connection with offices over which Revenue officials preside *ex-officio* was at Nugur, the charge of which was, owing to the frequent absences on tour of the Tahsildar, transferred to the Taluk head clerk.

At the close of the triennium there were accordingly 475 sub-offices under Sub-Registrars and 7 under officers of the Revenue Department against 460 and 7 respectively. The total number of Sub-Registrars, including Joint Sub-Registrars attached to Registrars' and Sub-Registrars' offices, was 501 against 474.

Full effect was given during the triennium to the rearrangement of the cadre of Sub-Registrars sanctioned in May 1910 at an additional cost of Rs. 7,920 *per annum*, and a second revision costing Rs. 14,280 *per annum* was introduced with effect from the 1st April 1913.

Extension of facilities for registration.

9. The extent to which the facilities for registration have been brought closer to the homes of the people may be judged from the fact that excluding the portion of the Agency tracts to which the Act does not apply the area served by each registration office existing at the end of 1913 was 249 square miles against 278 in 1903 and 301 in 1893.

The result of the constitution of new sub-districts is perhaps best tested by comparing the increase in registrations in the triennium under report over its predecessor in the tracts served by the newly constituted offices and the offices they relieved with the similar increase in the remainder of the districts in which the offices have been opened. In Guntur, the respective percentages are 25·92 and ·66, in Salem 15·79 and 5·5, in Ganjam 15·31 and 2·76, in South Canara 13·99 and *minus* 1·17, in South Malabar 8·95 and 3·33 and in Trichinopoly 7·38 and *minus* 3·26. Comparisons as regards Tinnevelly are unsafe owing to numerous transfers of villages to the district of Madura, and the results in North Malabar work out unfavourably owing to causes which it has not so far been possible to ascertain. These facts taken as a whole support the principle for which the department has always contended, viz., that after registrations reach a certain limit progress is arrested but if sub-districts are split up and facilities thus afforded to the public, registrations immediately develop in the tracts so treated.

The relief of pressure in overworked offices is being examined systematically, the needs of each district in this respect being taken up for consideration as a whole and redistribution of jurisdiction between existing offices being at the same time effected where this is likely to promote the convenience of the public. In this manner the districts of Madura, Coimbatore, Ganjam and South Arcot have recently received much needed relief, and proposals are under examination as regards South Malabar and North Arcot as also with reference to the reduction of the original registration now falling to be dealt with by some of the District Registrars.

Temporary Joint Sub-Registrars.

10. During the triennium the system of appointing temporary Joint Sub-Registrars to offices during periods of extraordinary pressure which was inaugurated in 1909 was developed, the number of offices so relieved being 54 in 1911, 72 in 1912 and 92 in 1913 at a cost of Rs. 7,200, Rs. 12,400 and Rs. 14,200 respectively.

Office accommodation.

11. The type-design for sub-registry offices was revised mainly in the direction of affording additional accommodation, and in individual cases where the provision of separate accommodation for gosha ladies was justified, a departure from the type-design has been permitted.

12. The scheme for the constitution of offices of central record at the head-quarters of districts [paragraph 29 (ii) of the last triennial report] is in abeyance. Meanwhile the question of the best means of providing accommodation for the growing records in sub-offices is under examination and a closed iron record rack on a type-design is under trial which, if it proves suitable, will go far towards solving this question. A revised type-design for District Registrars' offices to meet present day requirements has also been framed and is before the Government.

Registrations.

13. Previous to the present triennium the highest number of registrations (1,271,404) was recorded in 1909. A slight fall occurred in the next two years, but in 1912 a record figure of 1,371,747 was reached and in 1913 almost the same level was maintained, the number being 1,368,653. Taking the triennium as a whole the registrations were 3,992,817 against 3,751,922, an increase of 6·42 *per cent.* made up of a rise of 6·46 *per cent.* under documents the registration of which is compulsory and a fall of ·04 *per cent.* under the optional class.

Compulsory registrations in Book 1 rose by 7·39 against 8·5 *per cent.*, while optional registrations decreased by 8·42 *per cent.* This decline was

due partly to the change from 1st June 1911 in the classification of leases in consequence of the ruling of the High Court under which non-agricultural leases executed by the lessee for one year and less, which were previously classified as optional, are now compulsorily registrable. Another cause is to be found in the rise in the value of transactions following upon the general improvement in the value of immoveable property.

Registrations in Book 3 rose by 24·99 against 30·6 *per cent.* whilst optional registrations in Book 4 increased by 15·66 against 5·4 *per cent.*

The increase in the total was the net result of a rise in fifteen districts and a fall in three, *viz.*, Bellary (793), Tanjore (888), and Tinnevelly (12,519). The last is not a real decline as under the Meyer distribution scheme, 47 villages were transferred from Tinnevelly to Ramnad, and the figures for the registration districts of Madura and Tinnevelly taken together exhibit an increase.

While 78 documents were registered per mille of the population in a triennium a decade ago, 100 documents were registered during the three years under review.

The varying effects of the seasons on registrations in different tracts and as regards the different classes of the population have been discussed in several previous reports, and it is unnecessary to recapitulate ; but the steady advance may be ascribed generally to greater activity in trade and to the facts that with the rise in the price of food-grains the better classes invest in landed property and also lend more freely especially as the credit of the borrowing ryot improves with the generally enhanced value of land ; that with the spread of education people are recognising more fully the advantage of possessing unquestionable records of evidence as to their rights by reducing transactions to writing and having them registered in place of the former oral agreements followed by possession ; and that the facilities for registrations are being extended steadily by the opening of new offices, the employment of temporary additional staff in periods of stress and generally by prompt discharge in the disposal of business, the public being thus encouraged to have their dealings recorded not only in cases in which the law renders registration compulsory but also where it is optional.

The local causes other than seasonal variations, which had an appreciable effect are confined to a few districts. In Ganjam and Kistna a large number of zamindari and estate leases were registered. In Bellary the prevalence of plague and cholera led to a drop. In South Arcot the floods at the end of 1913 practically cut off communication to several registration offices but there was an increase in the triennium as a whole owing mainly to a less favourable groundnut crop. The planting industry and the more extended cultivation of, and trade in, tea and cardamoms and good cotton crops led to a rise in Madura ; whilst in Salem the absence of plague contributed to an increase. In Coimbatore, on the other hand, there is a periodic rise and fall corresponding to the periods of the absence and the visitation of this epidemic.

It is interesting to compare the variations in triennial periods separated by a decade, *viz.*, 1901—1903 and 1911—1913. During this decade registrations rose from 28,76,762 to 39,92,817 or by 38·80 *per cent.*, but taking the different classes of documents, the growth has been marked under *Settlements* (190·44 *per cent.*), *Partition deeds including releases by partition* (53·75 *per cent.*), *Receipts* (60·36 *per cent.*), *Promissory notes* (236·51 *per cent.*) and *Wills* (106·19 *per cent.*) The large increase under *Settlements* may be ascribed to more numerous endowments of property for charitable and public purposes, to the change in the law regarding the treatment of similar dispositions by way of declaration of trust, and to the enhancement of probate duty which appears to have had the effect in some measure of inducing people to substitute settlements for wills. The reduction of registration fees since 1909 accounts for the rise under *Partitions.* The increase under *Receipts* is ascribed to the fact that discharges of mortgages are now reduced to writing and registered in a

greater degree than was formerly the case. If receipts of mortgages are not registered the encumbrance certificate which a vendee demands before concluding a purchase shows only the mortgages and he hesitates to accept oral statements. The reduction of registration fees on discharges of previously registered mortgages has also contributed to the increase. Instances of denial of execution induce people to obtain the registry of *Promissory notes* and agreements not affecting immoveable property. The expansion of trade is also a cause of the marked rise here. The very large increase under *Wills* is due to the recognition of the advantages of making testamentary disposition so as to avoid subsequent dissensions and litigation, and to the reduction of fees on wills of lower value with effect from April 1909.

Economic condition.

14. The endeavours made in the past to ledger statistics in the department in respect of the economic significance of registered transactions have not proved successful, since deductions based upon the average struck for a district, or even for a taluk of a district, are unreliable owing to varying conditions. Moreover, it is impracticable to rely upon the oral information obtained by registering officers from the parties to a document which does not specify the purpose of the transaction with which it is concerned: enquiries on such points are viewed with suspicion by the illiterate and resented by the well-to-do. Again, the classification of parties to transactions under well defined heads is a matter which presents insuperable difficulties. Indeed, in order to arrive at safe conclusions as to the bearing of documents on the economic condition of the people, it is necessary to trace the history of each document to its source and to conduct local enquiries. The whole question of the best means of turning the records of the department to account is under consideration.

Aggregate and average value of registered transactions, and average registration fee.

15. The aggregate value of registered transactions increased from 93·80 crores to 114·23 crores, the rise being the net result of increases of 19·17 crores in the value of documents registered in Book 1 (a rise of 19·56 crores under the compulsory class and a fall of ·39 crore under the optional) and of 1·26 crores in the value of documents registered in Book 4. Registrations affecting immoveable property increased by 5·98 *per cent.* whilst their aggregate value rose by 21·4 *per cent.*

The average value of a registered document advanced also from Rs. 262 in 1910 to Rs. 304 in 1913.

With these rises, the average registration fee for a document increased from Rs. 1–5–1 in 1910 to Rs. 1–6–11 in 1913.

Registration of wills.

16. The steady advance in the registration of wills, the causes for which have been alluded to already, was maintained, the total being 23,950 against 19,162. As usual, the testators in the majority of cases were Hindus. In Malabar the increase was from 2,227 to 3,260.

Of the wills and authorities to adopt, 630 were presented for registration after the death of the testator. With the 46 * cases pending at the commencement of the triennium there were 676 cases for enquiry under section 41 of the Act and, of these, 545 were registered, 86 were refused registration and 45 remained for disposal.

Sealed covers containing wills.

17. Deposits of sealed covers, which is permissible only in Registrar's offices, numbered 239 against 186; 48 covers were withdrawn by the testators themselves, 73 were opened and registered after the death of the testators and 5 were removed to courts. At the close of 1913 there were 657 unopened covers. No practical steps can be devised for reducing this steadily increasing number. Some of the older covers are showing signs of deterioration and the seals are disappearing, but every possible measure is taken for their preservation and protection.

* Revised figure.

Searches.

18. General searches, which fell from 45,369 to 35,192 in the triennium ending 1910, not only recovered the lost ground but rose to 50,798. The increase is in a measure due to greater caution on the part of vendees as regards title to property in concluding transactions.

With the growth of the registration records, applications for single searches and for copies have increased from 194,782 to 238,064 and from 221,584 to 276,312, respectively.

The questions of the possibility of a reduction of the fees levied for searches and of the simplification of the rules under which the fees are levied are at present under consideration.

Impounded documents.

19. Registering officers impounded 2,945 documents for insufficient stamp duty, and these with the 168 * documents pending disposal with the revenue authorities at the commencement of the triennium gave a total of 3,113 cases. Penalty was levied or ordered to be levied in 2,522 and was remitted in 6 cases, 323 documents were found to be duly stamped, 19 were impounded permanently or otherwise disposed of and 243 were awaiting disposal. The percentage of cases in which the impounding was justified was 88·8 against 86·9 in the preceding triennium. The protection of the stamp revenue afforded by the officers of the department is not inconsiderable.

Applications for transfer of revenue registry.

20. The decline in the number of applications presented to registering officers for transfer of revenue registry, which is ascribed to the facilities afforded by revenue officials in the matter of affecting such transfers, continued; the total being 157,070 against 164,517, and the number of documents registered for the sole purpose of enabling parties to present applications for the transfer of revenue registry having fallen from 7,114 to 7,066. The decrease occurred mainly in the districts of Salem, South Arcot, Tanjore and Madura.

Registration for co-operative societies.

21. Transactions of co-operative societies are exempt from the ordinary fees for registration, search and copying. Documents of this nature were 27,371 in number, and 2,931 encumbrance certificates were issued as against 13,972 and 1,710, respectively. But for the concession which these transactions enjoy, fees amounting to Rs. 54,870 would have been collected as against Rs. 30,723. This sum may be taken as a measure of the direct aid afforded by the department to this movement. The increase in the unremunerated work connected with searches is appreciable.

Refusals to register.

22. Refusals to register fell from 5,924 to 5,861 and, of these, 2,044 were due to denial of execution, 1,029 to non-appearance of the executant within the prescribed time and 1,775 to unwillingness to have registration completed.

Appeals.

23. There were filed before District Registrars 318 appeals under section 72 of the Act and 13 were pending at the commencement of the triennium. Of these 314 were disposed of, the orders of Sub-Registrars being confirmed in 204 or 65 *per cent.* of the cases heard. The corresponding figures for the preceding triennium were 352, 10, 346, 201, and 58 *per cent.*

Applications under section 73 numbered 1,610 against 1,560, the file being 1,680 against 1,621 and the disposals 1,645 against 1,554. The refusals of Sub-Registrars were upheld in 22 *per cent.* of the cases heard as against 24 *per cent.*

The total of pending appeals and applications was 52 against 83.

No safe conclusions can be drawn from these figures as regards the manner in which Sub-Registrars perform their duties, but there is nothing to indicate that their refusals were perverse. The low percentage of confirmations of Sub-Registrars' orders in appeals under section 73 is due to the fact that these officers cannot enquire into the fact of execution as the Registrar is empowered to do.

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* Revised figure.

Percentage of documents copied on the day of presentation.

24. A very satisfactory rise has occurred in the percentage of documents copied on the day of presentation, these percentages having been 52·12 in 1908, 50·26 in 1909, 53·74 in 1910, 59·03 in 1911, 69·28 in 1912 and 72·74 in 1913. An argument brought forward against these statistics is that there is always the danger that a not over-conscientious officer, by refusing to accept more documents than he can get through comfortably in the hours he chooses to devote to work, may sacrifice the convenience of the public to the attainment of a high percentage in this respect ; but such officers form a very small minority of the staff. Stringent orders have been issued that on no account should this percentage be raised at the expense either of accuracy in transcription or of the convenience of the public, and this point receives constant attention. The improvement in this respect is attributable to several causes. In the forefront I would place greater punctuality in attendance *during office hours* and the consequent recognition by the public that there is some truth in the adage "early come, early go" when applied to attendance at a registration office. The more extended employment of temporary Joint Sub-Registrars during periods of stress is another factor that has conduced to better results in this respect. The arrangements under which sanctions are accorded for the employment of section writers—an ever present trouble in an inadequately staffed department with a steadily increasing volume of work—have also been revised so as to place more extended powers in the hands of the District Registrar, the man on the spot, and thus render this aid more prompt and therefore infinitely more effectual. Periodical reviews of the clerical strength of each office in relation to its volume of work have enabled me to make re-adjustments so as to distribute the permanent staff as evenly as is practicable. Last but by no means least, the improvement in this respect may be attributed to the co-operation and industry of the officers and subordinates of the department.

Documents lying unclaimed.

25. There was also a satisfactory fall from 5,924 to 3,431 in the number of documents lying unclaimed, a result which has been effected by prompter disposal, by the regular issue of notices to parties to take back documents and by the return of a large number by post [paragraph 31 (vi) *infra*].

Documents discredited by civil courts.

26. Of the 66 documents discredited or cancelled by civil courts, 25 were consequent on fraud or failure of consideration and 7 on account of forgery and false personation, against 58, 13 and 10, respectively. In none of the cases of fraud or forgery did any blame attach to the registering officer.

Prosecutions, private.

27. One case was pending and 26 were instituted by private persons for offences under the Act, against 24 in the preceding triennium. Of these 27 cases, 11 resulted in conviction and 14 in acquittal, and two were pending.

Prosecutions, departmental.

Three cases of prosecutions for offences under the Registration Act were pending and 27 were instituted as against 35. Of these, 27 were disposed of, conviction being obtained in 26 and one resulting in acquittal, giving percentages of 96·3 and 3·7 against 80·56 and 19·44, respectively.

A prosecution was also instituted in May 1912 against a merchant and a stamp-vendor for offering a bribe to a registering officer in order to expedite registration. The second accused was discharged and the first convicted and sentenced to one month's simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 500 with one month's simple imprisonment in default. On appeal preferred to the Sessions Court, the sentence of the lower court was confirmed as regards the first accused.

Thumb impressions.

28. In cases of false personation the thumb impressions have afforded valuable evidence.

Burglaries and incendiarism.

29. Several cases of burglary and attempted incendiarism have occurred in registration offices.

The Police ultimately reported as undetectable the burglary in the sub-office at *Tamaraipatti* (Madura) which occurred in October 1911 (paragraph 13 of the note for 1911) but some of the minor articles which were stolen have recently been found buried a few miles away. In the case of the documents admitted to registration and awaiting transcription at the time of the burglary the Government decided to permit the registration of fresh documents of an identical character, free of registration fees.

At *Sermadevi* (Tinnevelly) on the 21st May 1912 some burning material was thrown into the office through a window and a few articles of furniture damaged. On the 11th September 1912 the office at *Valavanur* (South Arcot) was broken into and minor articles to the value of about Rs. 20 stolen. A breach was effected in the wall of the office at *Attur* (Madura) on the 13th November 1912 and the record room was broken into but the nightwatchman raised an alarm and the only loss was the thumb impression box. The office at *Sendamangalam* (Trichinopoly) was broken into on the 1st September 1913. No records were damaged but some furniture was burnt. At *Nadapuram* (North Malabar) on the 31st October 1913 a breach was made in the wall of the record room but the existence of an almirah against it prevented an entry being effected. Nothing was lost. All these occurrences were reported to the police but remained undetected. In connection with the burglary at Sendamangalam two persons were charged but were acquitted. In all these cases the nightwatchman when found to have been absent or at fault was dealt with suitably; but the occurrences necessitated an examination of the rules regarding the watching of offices at nights, and orders have been issued to ensure that a due check is exercised over the performance of their duties by night watchmen. These have had a salutary effect. The question is not, however, free from difficulty since the night watchman of the department is also entrusted with duties which require his presence in the office at hours when it is not closed for work and in virtue of which his appointment has been made pensionable. This combination seems to be inadvisable and the whole matter is now under consideration.

Other functions of registering officers.

30. Functions which registering officers exercise in addition to their ordinary duties may be classified under the heads mentioned below—

(i) *Registration of births and deaths.*—(*a*) All Registrars and Sub-Registrars are Registrars of births and deaths under the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1886.

(*b*) District Registrars with jurisdiction beyond the limits of the ordinary original civil jurisdiction of the High Court are ex-officio Registars under the Parsee Marriage and Divorce Act, 1865.

(*c*) The District Registrars of North Malabar, South Malabar, South Canara and Madras-Chingleput and all Sub-Registrars in the first three districts are *ex-officio* Registrars under the Malabar Marriage Act, 1896.

(*d*) All Sub-Registrars are custodians of registers of births and deaths maintained under the Madras Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1899, and one Sub-Registrar is a Registrar under that Act.

(ii) *Registration of Companies.*—The Registrar of Madras-Chingleput was as stated in paragraph 6 *supra*, Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, of Provident Insurance Societies and of Life Assurance Companies until December 1913, when a special officer was appointed for these duties. All other Registrars are Assistant Registrars of Joint Stock Companies for the districts to which their jurisdiction as Registrars of Assurances respectively extends. During 1913 the Sub-Registrars of Vizagapatam, Nellore, Kurnool and Ootacamund exercised the powers of Assistant Registrars of Joint Stock Companies for the revenue districts of Vizagapatam, Nellore, Kurnool and the Nilgiris respectively.

(iii) *Special Magistrates.*—During 1913, 71 Sub-Registrars exercised these powers and disposed of 6,338 cases, the corresponding figures for 1910 being 53 and 4,555. As difficulties were experienced in finding Sub-Registrars qualified to fill such posts, the passing of the Criminal Judicial

Test (lower) has been made compulsory on officers appointed after the 1st April 1912.

(iv) *Notaries Public.*—The list of registering officers who are Notaries Public was revised in 1912 and at the end of the triennium included 141 Registrars and Sub-Registrars.

(v) *Local Bodies.*—The officers of the department are encouraged to interest themselves in local administration. One Registrar was appointed a member of a District Board and the President has testified in high terms to his usefulness in that capacity. At the end of the triennium 27 Sub-Registrars filled the post of chairman of a municipality or of a union panchayat. Several are members of these bodies and of local committees, such as those connected with dispensaries and sanitation.

(vi) *Treasuries.*—Sub-Registrars, whose offices are situated in or near taluk cutcherries, are as a rule required to take charge of the treasury during the simultaneous absence of the Tahsildar and the Stationary Sub-Magistrate and registering officers at Deputy Tahsildar's stations where there are treasuries take charge of the latter during the absence of the Deputy Tahsildar on tour.

(vii) *Registry of Rainfall.*—The rain gauges at some stations are in charge of Sub-Registrars.

Alterations in the rules and table of fees.

31. The additions and alterations which have been made in the rules framed under section 69 of the Act and in the Table of Fees are enumerated below :—

(i) A maximum fee of 8 annas has been instituted for the registration of a duplicate presented for registration on the same day as the original document, in lieu of the ordinary copying fee previously levied.

(ii) When a copy of a document is printed at the expense of an applicant or when an applicant presents a printed copy of a document already registered and applies for a certified copy of the same, copying charges are levied only for the portions added in manuscript in the certified copy in addition to a fixed fee of 2 annas for comparing and certifying.

(iii) The exemption from the payment of a second fee for a commission or a private attendance in regard to the same document, which previously covered the case of executants only, has been extended to all parties to the document.

(iv) The fee for the service of a hammamnee has been reduced from Rs. 5 to Rs. 3 and District Registrars have been empowered to remit the attendance fee, the commission fee and the hammamnee fee whenever it appears that their exaction is productive of hardship.

(v) Payment of the registration fee has been waived on a mortgage deed executed by an officer of Government for securing the repayment of an advance received by him from the Government for the purpose of constructing or purchasing a dwelling house for his own use.

(vi) Provision has been made for the return of documents by post at the option of parties. This system is growing in popularity as is evidenced by the fact that the number of documents so returned increased from 9,283 in 1911 to 66,492 in 1912 and to 90,167 in 1913, the percentages of these numbers to the total registrations being ·74, 4·84 and 6·58 respectively.

(vii) The form of indexes has been altered slightly so as to obviate the necessity for the use of two different coloured inks.

Revision of the registration rules.

32. The entire recasting and amplification of the existing rules to which reference was made in paragraph 28 of the last triennial report entailed considerable labour, and although the revised rules are just issuing, their actual examination and elaboration form an important part of the work of the triennium. A brief resumé of the main alterations will not be out of place—

(*a*) A registering officer will be empowered to decline to receive a document for registration if presented after 4 P.M. when he has sufficient work to attend to after that hour in connection with documents previously

admitted to registration. This has hitherto been a departmental order, but it is necessary to include a rule to this effect to enable the staff to pay adequate attention to the examination and authentication of registers and the return of documents, to reduce as far as practicable the number of cases of late presentation of documents and thus to provide a tangible benefit to the early comer.

(*b*) When a person or a firm has occasion to register a considerable number of documents in the same form, *e.g.*, zamindari leases or fund mortgages, bound books containing the printed form may, with the special sanction of the Inspector-General, be brought into use for entry of the documents.

(*c*) The return, for correction or amendment, of a document after it has been accepted will be permitted; the existing practice is to refuse registration even when a party desires to withdraw a document with the object of re-presenting it after rectification of defects.

(*d*) Each registering officer will maintain a "Minute Book" to serve as a diary showing the several stages of proceedings in respect of pending documents and enquiries.

(*e*) A registering officer will be empowered to require that the date of execution shall be entered in a document presented for registration.

(*f*) Special volumes will be introduced for the entries of documents of an ephemeral nature relating to Book 4, such as promissory-notes, receipts, sales of moveable property, mortgages of moveable property and bonds for a term less than 12 years, these books and the indexes thereto being destroyable after a period of 30 years. This is the first step in the reduction of the bulk of the permanent records of the department.

(*g*) Co-operative societies will be permitted to present documents on printed forms along with a spare copy, the latter after being filled in by the department and compared, endorsed and authenticated being filed as the original entry of the document.

Inspections.

33. With the exception of the sub-offices at Anjengo and Tangasseri, which are inspected in alternate years, and of Nugur and Bhadrachalam which are in the interior of the Godavari district and on account of their inaccessibility are inspected annually by the Revenue department and triennially by the District Registrar, all the sub-offices were inspected by the District Registrars in each year of the triennium. The inspection of Bhadrachalam and Nugur registering 197 and 28 documents, respectively, which was to have been performed by the District Registrar in 1913 had to be postponed owing to unexpected changes in the incumbency of that office.

In 1912 Collectors and Revenue Divisional Officers were relieved of the obligation to inspect registration offices.

The Inspector-General inspected 183 offices and the Inspector of Registration offices 217, against 170 and 186. Every Registrar's office was visited by the Inspector-General during each year except that of North Arcot in 1913.

Financial.

34. *Revenue.*—Following upon the expansion in the operations of the department, the revenue exhibited a steady increase rising from 19·21 lakhs in 1910 to 19·89 in 1911, 22·24 in 1912 and 23·12 in 1913, the last being the highest figure on record. The total for the triennium was 65·26 lakhs against 57·63 lakhs.

Expenditure.—Including the cost of stationery, printing and binding and of buildings, but excluding pensionary charges, the expenditure which stood at 14·56 lakhs in 1910 fell to 13·43 lakhs in 1911, rose to 13·79 lakhs in 1912, but again declined to 13·63 lakhs in 1913 giving a triennial total of 40·85 lakhs against 40·90 lakhs. The fall in 1913 was due mainly to the fact that in view of the change in procedure under which books and forms will for the future be supplied direct to the districts from the Government Press instead of from the Inspector-General's office, no paper for books and forms required for consumption in 1914–15 was procured from the Stationery office as would otherwise have been the case.

Comparing the expenditure under the main heads in the triennium ending 1913 with that immediately preceding, the permanent charges under (*a*) *salaries of officers* have risen by 1·39 lakhs and under (*b*) *establishment* by 1·36 lakhs, whilst the outlay on (*c*) *temporary establishments* has dropped by ·48 lakh and on (*d*) *other items* by 2·33, including under the last-mentioned head charges on account of grain compensation allowance.

The increases under (*a*) and (*b*) have been due to the opening of new sub-offices counterbalanced partly by the saving arising from the scheme of amalgamation mentioned in paragraph 4. Rearrangements of the cadre of Sub-Registrars (paragraph 8 *supra*) and the more extended employment of Temporary Joint Sub-Registrars also contributed to the rise under (*a*).

The opening of new sub-offices, closer scrutiny over the expenditure on section-writers and the redistribution from time to time of the permanent clerical staff (paragraph 24 *supra*) account for the fall under (*c*).

The saving in (*d*) occurred almost wholly in the cost of stationery, printing and binding. The replenishment of the stock in the offices of the Inspector-General and of District Registrars raised the expenditure under this head in the triennium immediately preceding but part of the saving is due to closer check over consumption.

On these figures the transactions of the department exhibited a surplus of 24·41 lakhs against 16·73.

General.

35. The diglott lists of the towns and villages in the several registration districts and sub-districts were completed and a consolidated notification showing the limits of districts and sub-districts was also published. With the issue of the revised registration rules, which together with the Act and the Table of Fees will form the first part of the Registration Manual, it is practicable to proceed with the second part which will comprise the departmental orders. Advantage has been taken of the compilation of this part, which is now in the final proof stage, to examine and to revise the procedure of the department with the object of reducing work and revised consolidated orders have been issued on numerous subjects. In this manner the classification and preservation of the records have received special attention, the returns submitted by subordinates to superior officers have undergone thorough revision and further measures were taken in order to reduce clerical labour in connection with correspondence which have resulted in the institution of a system which is a combination of the disposal number, the case and commercial systems and which has proved of great value in the department which cannot afford the staff either for the maintenance of indexes or for the elaborate procedure of the disposal number system. The institution of the Registration Gazette has been the means of collecting and circulating orders and instructions in a handy form with some saving in labour, stationery and postage. The system introduced with effect from January 1911, of continuous copying under which it is allowable for more than one document to be copied on a page, has worked satisfactorily and effected a substantial saving not only in the outlay on register books but in the volume of records, whilst no inconvenience has been felt. A rough calculation places the saving in cost at upwards of Rs. 20,000 during the three years.

Service registers.

36. The service registers of all the officers of the department have been maintained.

Valuable stock.

37. An inventory of valuable stock is kept in every office.

Casualties.

38. Six Registrars and twenty-one Sub-Registrars retired, three Registrars and thirty Sub-Registrars died, three Sub-Registrars were transferred to other departments, two to the Revenue and one to the Police department, and one Sub-Registrar was dismissed.

39. It can be claimed that the record of the triennium is one of steady progress in the extension of facilities for registration and the promotion of the convenience of the public by reducing the area served by sub-offices and by adopting every practicable measure to ensure prompt attention to their needs. It is also not lacking in satisfactory features which testify to the zealous discharge of their duties by the staff of the department; duties which are carried out unostentatiously, which demand care, application and vigilance, the faithful performance of which affects the safety of title to property, which in short play no insignificant part in the advancement of the welfare of the people. I take this opportunity of testifying to the loyal co-operation of the officers serving under me in achieving the satisfactory results to which I have referred in face of the fact that the department is still overweighted by an undue proportion of temporary staff. This long-existent defect, which taxes by no means lightly the officers of the department from the Inspector-General to the lowest grade Sub-Registrar in endeavours to adjust to the best advantage the inadequate permanent staff and to find men for temporary service of uncertain duration in out-of-the-way corners of the Presidency will be remedied to a very great extent by the introduction of the scheme for the revision of clerical establishments. This measure, which has formed the subject of considerable correspondence and of examination during the triennium and may be said to have reached its final stage, will not only bring relief to the department but will also add to the comfort of the public.

Conclusion.

Proposals are now before the Government for minimising one of the difficulties experienced by the superior staff, *viz.*, in the grant of leave, but with the expansion of the department and the steadily increasing number of officers the problem of the prospects of this staff becomes more and more difficult and will require attention ere long.

C. M. SCHMIDT,
Inspector-General of Registration.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX I.

Statement of instruments registered and of the value of property transferred by registered instruments in each district of the Madras Presidency for the year 1913.

Registrations affecting immoveable property, Book 1. — Compulsory.

Districts.	Number of Registration offices.	Instruments of gift [section 17(1), clause (*a*)].		Instruments of sale or exchange of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards.		Instruments of sale or exchange of value less than Rs. 100 (sections 54 and 118 of the Transfer of Property Act).		Instruments of mortgage.		Other instruments registered under section 17 (1), clauses (*b*) and (*c*).		Instruments of perpetual lease [section 17 (1), clause (*d*)].		All instruments of lease (other than of perpetual lease).		Amount of fines or premia paid on leases.	Total of compulsory registrations.	
		Num-ber.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.	Num-ber.	Aggre-gate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.		Number.	Aggregate value.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	16(*a*)	17	18
			RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.	RS.		RS.
Madras-Chingleput.	18	329	2,14,629	14,696	1,16,19,955	11,081	4,91,867	22,716	1,16,70,085	1,568	70,06,354	173	2,868	4,076	5,36,817	90,001	54,639	3,16,32,576
Ganjām	14	109	29,528	10,331	38,04,652	8,889	4,12,705	13,461	28,39,704	551	6,33,659	48	453	1,643	3,43,756	944	35,032	80,65,401
Gōdāvari-Vizagapatam.	32	796	3,94,636	17,154	94,71,744	8,673	3,96,286	23,630	94,66,708	1,975	28,00,101	164	3,837	7,711	10,79,204	18,005	60,103	2,36,30,571
Kistna	23	867	5,89,489	23,240	1,26,78,460	9,285	4,51,797	15,451	63,76,183	1,917	25,90,914	739	16,051	6,719	8,91,448	85,414	58,218	2,36,79,756
Guntūr-Nellore ...	35	993	4,98,961	27,665	1,24,15,389	13,444	6,22,446	16,294	50,68,052	2,439	25,89,496	57	991	7,233	6,85,222	16,976	68,125	2,18,97,533
Cuddapah-Kurnool.	23	652	1,52,158	12,898	36,16,502	12,013	5,16,910	9,343	22,23,139	952	7,89,522	43	515	698	1,50,479	3,164	36,599	74,52,389
Bellary-Anantapur.	22	465	1,32,616	10,459	35,49,809	6,704	3,00,823	11,903	34,93,916	564	9,23,344	33	860	621	1,48,822	28,130	30,749	85,78,320
North Arcot ...	31	490	1,30,307	23,248	77,81,433	23,818	9,97,308	35,952	74,23,597	1,776	20,53,525	473	5,420	1,981	2,68,779	74,859	87,738	1,87,35,228
South Arcot ...	30	388	1,26,368	24,967	84,74,617	21,012	9,33,248	44,175	90,09,423	2,634	17,03,763	5	134	2,741	2,18,115	5,775	95,922	2,04,71,443
Tanjore ...	34	484	2,43,684	21,634	1,49,65,659	11,312	5,37,794	30,156	1,14,30,756	3,906	52,89,232	100	1,003	9,395	10,83,176	21,992	76,987	3,35,73,296
Tinnevelly ...	34	432	2,28,583	21,728	1,08,89,031	12,619	5,53,346	47,656	1,28,71,287	5,212	43,78,858	47	773	1,762	3,01,695	19,678	89,456	2,92,43,251
Madura	42	436	2,65,675	32,715	1,63,35,389	17,973	8,15,384	86,441	2,24,13,083	4,752	66,35,621	622	30,276	3,542	6,74,291	1,68,524	146,481	4,73,38,243
Trichinopoly ...	27	172	93,907	20,695	89,96,012	14,676	6,34,072	34,320	99,14,076	2,388	26,88,495	149	2,999	3,402	5,54,503	17,323	75,802	2,29,01,387
Salem	20	160	47,804	12,512	43,23,901	8,750	3,86,850	24,371	49,33,123	1,142	17,57,974	135	1,162	1,116	1,14,170	12,760	48,186	1,15,77,744
Coimbatore-Nilgiris.	29	258	1,59,909	17,402	1,08,66,373	10,113	4,11,621	38,603	1,34,00,891	3,067	59,52,523	16	897	5,102	10,27,045	54,807	74,561	3,18,74,066
South Canara ...	18	188	2,25,444	2,010	21,68,295	679	29,102	6,229	39,40,399	3,481	26,80,645	2,286	40,808	1,955	1,79,970	69,781	16,828	93,34,444
North Malabar ...	28	898	2,27,965	1,390	9,55,088	297	14,146	32,263	41,28,758	7,173	26,43,825	128	824	18,717	3,75,784	1,59,000	60,866	85,05,390
South Malabar ...	40	440	2,29,002	3,362	22,35,004	1,808	79,543	60,640	1,08,84,477	15,536	98,33,741	74	1,147	8,119	4,48,855	73,942	89,979	2,37,85,711
Total ...	500	8,557	39,90,715	298,106	14,51,47,313	193,146	85,85,248	553,604	15,14,87,657	61,033	6,29,51,592	5,292	1,11,018	86,533	90,82,131	9,21,075	1,206,271	38,22,76,749
Total for 1912 ...	490	8,764	42,97,036	288,780	13,32,75,067	199,962	87,80,107	569,609	14,61,92,551	58,944	5,43,52,598	5,536	1,00,568	82,465	81,70,590	7,76,450	1,214,060	35,59,44,967
Total for 1911 ...	494	8,364	38,15,468	246,940	11,28,51,080	185,248	80,53,287	528,987	13,02,00,237	53,257	5,17,32,782	4,371	80,485	73,763	59,94,262	7,21,784	1,100,930	31,34,49,385

APPENDIX I—*continued.*

Statement of instruments registered and of the value of property transferred by registered instruments in each district of the Madras Presidency for the year 1913—continued.

Registrations affecting immoveable property, Book 1—*concluded.*

Districts.	Optional.																
	Instruments of sale or exchange of value less than Rs. 100.		Instruments of mortgage.		Instruments of lease.		Amount of fines or premia paid on leases.	Other instruments registered under section 18, clauses (*a*) and (*b*).		Awards [section 17 (2), clause (vi)].		Miscellaneous registrations other than certified copies of decrees and orders of Court.		Certified copies of decrees and orders of Court.		Total of optional registrations relating to immoveable property.	
	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.		Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.
	19	20	21	22	23	24	24(*a*)	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
						RS.	RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.
Madras-Chingleput.	...	...	...	...	890	34,595	1,583	434	20,344	7	1,33,191	179	2,05,976	1	4,725	1,511	4,00,414
Ganjām	...	...	...	...	1,306	1,10,747	...	208	8,585	...	..	260	79,761	...	...	1,774	1,99,093
Gōdāvari- Vizagapatam.	...	...	...	...	2,354	1,17,697	1,211	438	20,897	4	6,552	693	4,18,661	5	456	3,494	5,65,474
Kistna	...	...	...	...	1,254	64,986	227	563	30,468	1	800	141	1,44,533	1	240	1,960	2,41,254
Guntūr-Nellore ...	...	...	...	...	600	26,077	50	632	24,774	4	820	143	87,128	3	9,623	1,382	1,48,472
Cuddapah-Kurnool.	...	...	...	...	135	7,581	167	380	17,172	...	...	448	1,66,801	...	...	963	1,91,721
Bellary-Anantapur.	...	...	...	...	140	11,992	520	200	6,768	1	16,854	162	53,667	...	...	503	89,801
North Arcot ...	...	...	...	...	825	39,661	749	926	35,715	3	21,389	144	64,661	1	120	1,899	1,62,295
South Arcot ...	...	...	...	...	1,318	59,536	400	1,613	61,055	2	29,060	189	1,57,060	20	12,029	3,142	3,19,140
Tanjore	...	...	...	...	1,912	85,496	725	961	46,336	...	...	633	6,76,626	2	273	3,508	8,09,456
Tinnevelly ...	...	...	...	...	589	49,902	90	1,827	81,198	...	...	3,220	14,03,215	5	4,739	5,641	15,39,144
Madura	...	...	...	...	1,331	53,991	2,935	2,102	87,368	7	5,83,848	436	2,66,543	...	...	3,876	9,94,685
Trichinopoly ...	...	...	...	...	1,025	47,892	680	860	39,063	...	...	217	1,95,489	1	...	2,103	2,83,124
Salem	...	...	...	...	724	26,826	14,088	585	28,120	1	13,521	253	1,01,413	1	80	1,564	1,84,048
Coimbatore-Nilgiris.	...	...	...	...	1,457	57,204	7,550	1,071	46,673	...	...	800	4,59,259	9	7,866	3,337	5,78,552
South Canara ...	...	...	...	...	1,261	95,547	310	1,298	56,708	...	...	2,196	11,68,724	4	3,278	4,759	13,24,567
North Malabar ...	...	...	...	...	8,854	2,09,754	20,062	11,362	3,77,215	...	...	3,765	5,78,350	5	395	23,986	11,85,776
South Malabar ...	...	...	...	...	12,168	7,68,825	2,46,188	16,595	6,75,795	...	...	5,702	17,69,226	5	20,438	34,470	34,80,472
Total ...	...	...	...	...	38,143	18,68,309	2,97,535	42,055	16,64,254	30	8,06,035	19,581	79,97,093	63	64,262	99,872	1,26,97,488
Total for 1912 ...	...	...	...	...	35,982	16,81,455	2,38,827	42,021	16,39,725	29	2,28,089	19,027	75,84,109	56	30,905	97,115	1,14,03,110
Total for 1911 ...	...	...	...	...	40,466	26,00,690	2,80,253	39,188	15,25,550	33	2,79,695	16,824	65,64,073	94	37,183	96,605	1,12,87,444

APPENDIX I—*concluded.*

Statement of instruments registered and of the value of property transferred by registered instruments in each district of the Madras Presidency for the year 1913—concluded.

Districts.	Registrations affecting moveable property, Book 4.										Number of Wills registered, Book 3.	Number of written authorities to adopt registered, other than those conferred by Wills, Book 3.
	Compulsory.											
	Instruments of gift of moveable property (section 123, clause 2 of the Transfer of Property Act).		Instruments of sale, etc., of moveable property [section 18, clause (*d*)].		Obligations for the payment of money [section 18, clause (*f*)].		All other documents registered under section 18, clause (*f*).		Total of registrations in Book 4.			
	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.	Number.	Aggregate value.		
	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46
		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		
Madras-Chingleput ...	6	7,120	429	2,41,793	420	6,48,211	1,327	26,01,169	2,182	34,98,293	374	2
Ganjām	1	190	129	13,534	532	2,38,670	336	79,335	998	3,31,729	251	2
Gōdāvari-Vizagapatam.	9	4,809	502	2,25,675	825	5,42,821	772	5,13,517	2,108	12,86,822	703	1
Kistna	4	3,125	779	1,15,269	603	3,65,117	665	5,40,283	2,051	10,23,794	449	1
Guntūr-Nellore ...	10	4,124	376	68,823	219	1,28,811	560	3,49,537	1,165	5,51,295	779	3
Cuddapah-Kurnool ...	3	1,610	417	84,098	135	61,878	406	1,38,747	961	2,86,333	574	...
Bellary-Anantapur ...	2	300	325	68,617	201	72,636	626	2,98,614	1,154	4,40,167	252	3
North Arcot	20	3,691	525	72,751	524	2,77,245	902	4,07,040	1,971	7,60,727	601	...
South Arcot	8	3,283	153	24,627	1,020	4,42,266	589	2,36,690	1,770	7,06,866	601	...
Tanjore	4	1,200	93	37,853	883	5,80,275	1,218	10,87,336	2,198	17,06,664	705	2
Tinnevelly	1	450	82	78,492	2,045	3,30,919	1,337	6,27,578	3,465	10,37,439	400	...
Madura	4	5,449	132	1,00,707	2,257	7,50,839	1,490	13,56,893	3,883	22,13,888	542	1
Trichinopoly ...	2	300	103	28,975	835	4,28,631	732	4,42,666	1,672	9,00,572	434	...
Salem	4	1,711	439	47,970	412	2,01,896	470	1,03,242	1,325	3,54,819	185	...
Coimbatore-Nilgiris.	6	15,410	287	74,580	929	4,80,637	856	3,75,766	2,078	9,46,393	260	...
South Canara ...	12	1,485	1,113	1,42,508	1,433	4,49,853	1,759	5,85,002	4,317	11,78,848	172	...
North Malabar ...	10	990	1,629	1,44,297	2,883	3,18,128	2,047	3,28,626	6,569	7,92,041	682	1
South Malabar ...	12	2,823	918	1,60,616	8,022	11,84,992	5,229	13,21,732	14,181	26,70,163	481	1
Total ...	118	58,070	8,431	17,31,185	24,178	75,03,825	21,321	1,13,93,773	54,048	2,06,86,853	8,445	17
Total for 1912 ...	102	79,160	9,079	15,31,544	23,438	75,28,280	19,889	95,13,358	52,508	1,86,52,342	8,041	23
Total for 1911 ...	117	2,26,151	8,412	17,16,958	20,988	62,81,409	17,887	77,32,854	47,404	1,59,57,372	7,464	14

APPENDIX II.

Statement of income, namely, fees realised on registrations and all other receipts in each district of the Madras Presidency for the year 1913.

Districts.	Fees on Registrations affecting immoveable property, Book 1.																
	Compulsory.								Optional.								
	Instruments of gift [section 17 (1), clause (a)].	Instruments of sale or exchange of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards.	Instruments of sale or exchange of the value less than Rs. 100 (sections 54 and 118 of the Transfer of Property Act).	Instruments of mortgage.	Other instruments registered under section 17 (1), clauses (b) and (c).	Instruments of perpetual lease [section 17 (1), clause (d)].	Instruments of lease (other than of perpetual leases).	Total fees on compulsory registrations.	Instruments of sale or exchange of the value less than Rs. 100.	Instruments of mortgage.	Instruments of lease.	Other instruments registered under section 18, clauses (a) and (b).	Awards [section 17 (2), clause (vi)].	Miscellaneous registrations other than certified copies of decrees and orders of Court.	Certified copies of decrees and orders of Court.	Total fees on optional registrations.	Total fees on registrations affecting immoveable property.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.			RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Madras-Chingleput ...	685	37,712	6,086	36,235	9,033	197	4,051	93,999	...	...	433	244	84	555	12	1,328	95,327
Ganjām	160	19,351	5,115	17,009	1,570	42	1,920	45,167	...	...	831	115	...	365	...	1,311	46,478
Gōdāvari-Vizagapatam ...	1,594	39,341	4,913	41,285	6,619	186	8,295	1,02,233	...	...	1,354	263	14	1,014	14	2,659	1,04,892
Kistna	2,077	53,148	5,507	28,191	6,156	1,161	6,925	1,03,165	...	...	723	348	3	294	1	1,369	1,04,534
Guntūr-Nellore	1,968	56,956	7,619	26,149	6,737	70	5,997	1,05,496	...	...	297	303	9	243	23	875	1,06,371
Cuddapah-Kurnool ...	864	21,273	6,353	13,099	2,246	41	822	44,698	...	...	80	207	...	668	...	955	45,653
Bellary-Anantapur ...	708	18,713	13,612	18,942	1,687	49	903	44,614	...	...	100	89	39	242	...	470	45,084
North Arcot	670	41,124	12,567	45,480	4,805	473	1,862	1,06,981	...	...	431	470	27	277	2	1,207	1,08,188
South Arcot	594	44,762	11,480	55,061	5,915	7	2,032	1,19,851	...	...	730	783	33	409	55	2,010	1,21,861
Tanjore	938	53,456	6,615	49,839	12,080	88	7,776	1,30,792	...	...	978	549	...	1,108	2	2,637	1,33,429
Tinnevelly	901	46,715	6,805	71,529	12,965	93	1,803	1,40,811	...	...	384	1,010	...	4,959	16	6,369	1,47,180
Madura	933	68,227	9,892	1,22,055	13,930	1,380	3,977	2,20,394	...	...	687	1,113	309	767	...	2,876	2,23,270
Trichinopoly	351	41,004	7,826	51,359	6,339	140	3,897	1,10,916	...	...	532	466	...	448	5	1,451	1,12,367
Salem	246	22,502	4,716	31,125	3,260	96	1,026	62,971	...	...	407	304	15	439	1	1,166	64,137
Coimbatore-Nilgiris ...	564	40,615	5,101	61,358	9,796	26	6,451	1,23,911	...	...	750	541	...	1,404	28	2,723	1,26,634
South Canara	608	6,719	361	14,723	9,298	2,726	1,587	36,022	...	...	989	712	...	3,667	12	5,380	41,402
North Malabar	1,262	3,511	167	30,363	13,421	104	8,577	57,405	...	...	3,846	5,237	...	3,768	19	12,870	70,275
South Malabar	874	8,255	936	63,276	34,408	94	4,755	1,12,598	...	...	9,665	8,628	...	7,064	49	25,406	1,38,004
Total ...	15,997	6,23,384	1,05,671	7,77,078	1,60,265	6,973	72,656	17,62,024	...	...	23,217	21,382	533	27,691	239	73,062	18,35,086
Total for 1912 ...	16,453	5,91,359	1,08,682	7,74,655	1,46,755	6,792	66,751	17,11,447	...	...	21,199	21,227	260	27,090	173	69,949	17,81,396
Total for 1911 ...	15,033	4,98,874	1,00,185	7,07,622	1,36,935	5,334	55,772	15,19,755	...	...	25,076	19,812	322	23,790	173	69,173	15,88,928

APPENDIX II—*concluded.*

Statement of income, namely, fees realised on registrations and all other receipts in each district of the Madras Presidency for the year 1913—concluded.

Districts.	Fees on registrations affecting moveable property, Book 4. Compulsory. Instruments of gift of moveable property (section 123, clause 2 of the Transfer of Property Act).	Instruments of sale, etc., of moveable property [section 18, clause (*d*)].	Obligations for the payment of money [section 18, clause (*f*)].	All other documents registered under section 18, clause (*f*).	Total fees on registrations affecting moveable property.	Fees on registration of Wills in Book 3.	Fees on registration of written authorities to adopt other than those conferred by Wills, Book 3.	Total fees on all registrations.	Receipts other than fees on registration. Fines under sections 25 and 34.	Fees on commissions issued (sections 33 and 38).	Fees on visits paid (sections 31, 33 and 38).	Fees for inspection of Books 1 and 2 and the indexes to Book 1 (section 57).	Copying fees credited to Government.	All other receipts.	Total receipts.	Total income.
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Madras-Chingleput ...	19	742	1,275	6,522	8,558	1,241	9	1,05,135	163	79	3,124	11,515	2,678	1,155	18,714	1,23,849
Ganjām	2	120	947	990	2,059	624	8	49,169	8	..	2,829	4,834	967	356	8,994	58,163
Godāvari-Vizagapatam ..	21	871	1,735	2,659	5,286	2,181	4	1,12,363	82	..	6,641	12,085	3,369	932	23,109	1,35,472
Kistna	8	841	1,230	2,136	4,215	1,590	4	1,10,343	166	...	5,719	10,938	3,147	756	20,726	1,31,069
Guntūr-Nellore	15	405	425	1,988	2,833	2,539	12	1,11,755	79	5	3,299	10,042	2,278	918	16,621	1,28,376
Cuddapah-Kurnool ...	8	508	264	1,924	2,704	1,898	...	50,255	10	...	885	2,970	993	465	5,323	55,578
Bellary-Anantapur ...	2	427	302	2,442	3,173	794	13	49,064	19	...	777	2,740	794	248	4,578	53,642
North Arcot	25	517	762	3,001	4,305	1,644		1,14,137	248	5	3,209	9,783	2,483	854	16,582	1,30,719
South Arcot	16	158	1,338	1,792	3,304	1,829	...	1,26,994	86	15	2,876	10,535	2,714	838	17,064	1,44,058
Tanjore	6	136	1,471	5,357	6,970	2,375	9	1,42,783	164	30	8,723	18,789	7,427	1,360	36,493	1,79,276
Tinnevelly	2	222	2,160	2,905	5,289	1,341	...	1,53,810	82	18	9,176	18,450	3,894	835	32,455	1,86,265
Madura	15	308	2,642	5,108	8,073	1,681	4	2,33,028	70	15	7,407	27,087	6,811	2,177	43,567	2,76,595
Trichinopoly	2	125	1,227	2,218	3,572	1,361	...	1,17,300	13	10	2,871	10,957	3,101	748	17,700	1,35,000
Salem	9	387	727	2,049	3,172	507	...	67,816	30	10	683	4,654	1,204	336	6,917	74,733
Coimbatore-Nilgiris ...	31	386	1,500	2,676	4,593	840	..	1,32,067	25	5	1,940	12,629	2,727	691	18,017	1,50,084
South Canara	12	1,037	2,253	2,945	6,247	583		48,232	12	60	6,992	5,188	3,789	431	16,472	64,704
North Malabar	9	1,302	2,460	2,586	6,357	1,783	4	78,419	540	126	7,941	8,067	3,690	952	21,316	99,735
South Malabar	18	902	7,389	7,198	15,507	1,472	4	1,54,987	1	35	10,383	12,076	5,891	1,684	30,070	1,85,057
Total ...	220	9,394	30,107	56,496	96,217	26,283	71	19,57,657	1,798	413	85,475	1,93,339	57,957	15,736	3,54,718	23,12,375
Total for 1912 ...	238	9,398	27,842	46,105	83,583	24,861	95	18,89,935	1,118	583	83,538	1,80,791	53,286	14,774	3,34,090	22,24,025
Total for 1911 ...	380	8,946	26,203	39,987	75,516	23,176	59	16,87,679	1,551	748	75,171	1,60,962	47,402	15,906	3,01,740	19,89,419

APPENDIX III.

Statement of expenditure in each district of the Madras Presidency for the year 1913.

Districts.	Fixed salaries of Registering officers.	Percentage paid to Registering officers.	Cost of establishment.			Other items of expenditure.	Total expenditure.
			Permanent.	Temporary.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Office of the Inspector-General of Registration.	22,552	...	17,080	...	17,080	* 1,01,676	* 1,41,308
Madras-Chingleput	30,486	...	19,149	2,685	21,834	6,824	59,144
Ganjām	16,976	...	10,827	1,614	12,441	4,286	33,703
Gōdāvari-Vizagapatam ...	33,403	7	22,285	1,867	24,152	6,588	64,150
Kistna	25,328	...	21,047	913	21,960	7,499	54,787
Guntūr-Nellore	36,184	...	20,837	1,640	22,477	9,035	67,696
Cuddapah-Kurnool	25,641	...	12,953	616	13,569	4,749	43,959
Bellary-Anantapur	24,146	...	11,066	523	11,589	4,042	39,777
North Arcot	39,612	...	23,720	2,478	26,198	7,405	73,215
South Arcot	38,575	...	30,397	1,820	32,217	10,518	81,310
Tanjore	46,290	...	38,635	1,384	40,019	10,351	96,660
Tinnevelly	40,494	...	35,682	1,465	37,147	11,124	88,765
Madura	53,939	...	44,605	4,395	49,000	15,608	1,18,547
Trichinopoly	31,977	...	22,739	2,738	25,477	8,276	65,730
Salem	23,315	...	13,312	1,970	15,282	4,241	42,838
Coimbatore-Nilgiris	34,330	...	26,869	840	27,709	9,240	71,279
South Canara	22,403	...	11,970	855	12,825	5,281	40,509
North Malabar	33,089	...	30,734	608	31,342	10,298	74,729
South Malabar	42,909	...	43,028	4,259	47,287	14,298	1,04,494
Total ...	6,21,649	7	4,56,935	32,670	4,89,605	* 2,51,339	* 13,62,600
Total for 1912 ...	6,12,879	5	4,58,127	31,395	4,89,522	* 2,76,662	* 13,79,068
Total for 1911 ...	5,92,808	...	4,55,480	30,045	4,85,525	* 2,64,484	* 13,42,817

* These sums include the following items :—

(1) Estimated value of paper for registers, stationery, packing materials, registration ink and printing and binding work done in the Government Press, and

(2) Amount debited to buildings.

The amounts relating to these items were—

For 1913 ... ... Rs. 24,774 and Rs. 58,546.
,, 1912 ... ... † Rs. 62,457 and Rs. 40,750.
,, 1911 ... ... † Rs. 67,655 and Rs. 49,960.

† Revised figures.

APPENDIX IV.

Statement of principal operations other than registrations in Books 1, 3 and 4 in each district of the Madras Presidency for the year 1913.

Districts.	Covers containing wills deposited (section 42).	Covers containing wills withdrawn (section 44).	Covers containing wills opened (section 45).	Wills removed to Courts under section 259 of the Indian Succession Act, copy being kept in Book 3 under section 46 (2).	Powers-of-Attorney authenticated.	Registrations under section 25.	Registrations under section 34.	Refusals to register (sections 71 and 76).	Appeals against such refusals (section 72) and applications under section 73 regarding such refusals. Registration ordered.	Appeals against such refusals (section 72) and applications under section 73 regarding such refusals. Registration refused.	Registration ordered by Civil Courts (section 77).	Prosecutions (section 83).	Number of orders and certificates filed in Book 1 under section 89 of the Registration Act. Under Land Improvement Loans Act.	Number of orders and certificates filed in Book 1 under section 89 of the Registration Act. Under Agriculturists' Loans Act.	Number of orders and certificates filed in Book 1 under section 89 of the Registration Act. Under Rule 94, Order XXI, Code of Civil Procedure.	Number of orders and certificates filed in Book 1 under section 89 of the Registration Act. Granted by Revenue Officers.	Searches of applications for copies.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Madras-Chingleput ...	9	2	2	1	784	8	9	88	18	5	1	2	265	1,405	293	348	9,950
Ganjām	...	...	...	...	119	...	...	54	5	8	...	...	45	35	341	18	4,170
Gōdāvari-Vizagapatam ...	15	3	1	...	393	2	8	91	6	10	2	1	23	7	658	666	11,907
Kistna	...	...	...	...	244	2	19	119	28	17	1	...	208	453	969	396	10,433
Guntūr-Nellore	2	...	...	...	240	4	16	128	21	13	1	...	18	48	841	893	9,561
Cuddapah-Kurnool ...	2	2	1	1	79	...	5	30	9	2	...	...	91	351	391	210	4,190
Bellary-Anantapur ...	4	3	2	...	64	2	2	25	5	5	1	...	173	541	269	7	3,539
North Arcot	...	...	1	...	228	3	14	186	42	15	1	...	444	542	521	784	9,442
South Arcot	3	1	...	...	175	6	7	248	59	22	...	..	24	77	704	137	11,881
Tanjore	9	...	2	...	704	4	12	294	110	26	2	...	8	488	651	813	20,854
Tinnevelly	2	2	...	...	413	6	2	89	46	8	2	4	351	79	628	184	16,361
Madura	4	1	...	...	1,342	2	...	131	25	8	2	1	217	184	912	508	26,558
Trichinopoly	1	...	1	...	337	2	3	143	30	12	2	2	139	367	616	382	12,411
Salem	...	...	1	...	90	...	6	77	10	5	2	...	89	96	287	37	4,512
Coimbatore-Nilgiris ...	3	1	3	...	244	...	2	82	35	4	...	...	715	215	251	99	11,179
South Canara	4	...	...	...	181	3	...	35	8	2	...	...	5	1	207	19	8,474
North Malabar	12	4	3	...	477	4	1	64	7	4	...	...	...	...	586	39	12,947
South Malabar	2	...	...	...	890	1	1	103	24	6	...	...	1	...	600	379	16,602
Total ...	72	19	17	2	7,004	49	107	1,987	488	172	17	10	2,816	4,889	9,725	5,919	2,04,971
Total for 1912 ...	103	13	24	2	6,537	40	94	1,988	436	213	20	9	2,238	5,252	9,520	4,320	1,90,853
Total for 1911 ...	64	16	32	1	6,129	38	94	1,886	467	183	24	8	1,937	2,654	8,856	8,191	1,69,350

No. 1446, JUDICIAL, 29TH JUNE 1914.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. C. M. SCHMIDT, Inspector-General of Registration.
To—the Chief Secretary to Government.
Dated—Madras, the 22nd April 1914.
No.—805-A./Genl.

Order—No. 1446, Judicial, dated 29th June 1914.

The report on the administration of the Registration department for the three years 1911—13 shows that except in one respect, that of optional registrations, there was a general increase in the activities of the department compared with the preceding triennium. The number of registrations rose from 3¾ to nearly 4 millions, while the aggregate value of the transactions registered increased from 93·8 to 114·23 crores. This increase in value—more than commensurate with the actual rise in the number of registrations—may be ascribed in great part to a progressive increase in the value of land, and is reflected in the enhanced revenue realised, which aggregated 65·26 lakhs compared with 57·63 lakhs for the preceding three years.

2. As a result of the steps taken to equalise the charges of District Registrars, the number of these officers was reduced from 24 to 20, while the gradual extension of facilities for registration is evidenced by a net rise in the number of sub-offices by 15. That this policy has been justified is proved by the fact that, in areas where new offices have been opened, the increase in the number of registrations has been exceptionally rapid. The Government are willing to sanction the establishment of additional registration offices wherever it may be shown that they are required for the convenience of the public, and may be opened without an undue sacrifice of economy of working.

3. Several reforms of importance to the internal working of the department were introduced during the period under review, conspicuous among which are the appointment of Joint Sub-Registrars to District head-quarters and the consequent freeing of District Registrars for the work of inspection and supervision, the institution of a Registration Gazette, and the revision of the registration rules. The reorganisation of the clerical staff was under consideration and the Government hope that when the proposals which they have accepted have been brought into force the efficiency of the department, already high, will be raised still further. It is evidence, the Government think, of growing efficiency that the number of documents lying unclaimed fell during the triennium from 5,924 to 3,431 and that the percentage of documents copied on the day of presentation rose as high as 72·74. The Government observe that in 1901–02 the percentage of documents copied on the day of presentation

was no less than 70·39, and they see no reason to believe that the present figure has been attained at the cost of public convenience. In a matter where the convenience of the greater number is the aim to keep in view, the possibility of occasional abuses cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the attainment of businesslike habits in registration offices.

4. The accommodation required for records in sub-offices, the safeguarding of offices against burglary and fire, together with the other specific points raised in the report, are subjects on which the Government will be glad to receive the views of the Inspector-General at an early date.

5. The Governor in Council has pleasure in congratulating Mr. Schmidt and the officers serving under him on the good work done by the department during the period under review.

(True Extract.)

A. BUTTERWORTH,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Registration.
,, the Revenue department.
,, the Accountant-General.
,, all Collectors.

Copy to the Government of India, Home department (with C.L.).

Editors' Table.

AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF MADRAS GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

IN INDIA.

R. Cambray & Co., Calcutta.
Combridge & Co., Madras.
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Higginbothams, Ltd., Mount Road, Madras.
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G. C. Loganadham Brothers, Madras.
S. Murthy & Co., Kapalee Press, Madras.
G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.
Nazair Kanun Hind Press, Allahabad.
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P. R. Rama Iyar & Co., Madras.
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Temple & Co., Georgetown, Madras.
Thacker & Co. (Limited), Bombay.
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Grindlay & Co., 54, Parliament Street, London, S.W.
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P. S. King & Son, 2 and 4, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
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